GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:386
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
NAM SUMMIT - 2003
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had participated in the recently concluded NAM Summit held at Kuala Lumpur;

(b) if so, the details of the various issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether he had called upon the member countries for the formation of a Global Poverty Alleviation Fund;

(d) if so, whether his suggestion was accepted and incorporated in the NAM declaration;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Pakistan had raised the issue of Kashmir during the said Summit; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the Government and other countries thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) - (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN ANSWER TO PARTS (A) TO (G) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 386 T ANSWERED ON 9.4.2003 REGARDING NAM SUMMIT - 2003

The Prime Minister participated in the NAM Summit held at Kuala Lumpur from February 23-25. The theme of the Summit was `the continuing revitalization of the NAM`.Apart from this, other global themes of contemporary relevance such as commitment to multilateralism, reform of the UN system, global terrorism, the importance of North-South engagement, South-South cooperation, globalisation and sustainable development were extensively discussed. The situation with regard to Palestine and Iraq were also discussed. The Summit adopted the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the continuing revitalization of the Non Aligned MovementIt also adopted statements on Iraq, Palestine and a final communiquÃ© reflecting the consensus reached on different issues.

The Prime Minister did not call upon the NAM members for the formation of a Global Poverty Alleviation Fund during the Summit.

The President of Pakistan included in his statement some totally unwarranted remarks about Jammu and Kashmir, contrary to NAM`s long-standing and healthy tradition of steering clear of bilateral issues. The Honorable Prime Minister responded to General Musharraf`s unacceptable statement by highlighting the irony of his talking about an international humanitarian order, while his country encourages and incites the terrorists who perpetuate violence everyday against innocent civilians in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan received no support for its views from any other country at the Summit. It was isolated to the point of even being denied a right of reply.